

COMMENT OF
THE DAY

Second Thoughts

WHILE expressing approval yesterday of the 1956-57 Estimates, we noted in passing the heavy commitments in public works extraordinary and other funds which have to be satisfied, not only this year, but for some time to come. It is appropriate that a closer view should be taken of these burdens, because as the Financial Secretary observed in his explanatory broadcast, they involve Government policy as well as the public purse. Characteristically, there was no suggestion of despair as the Financial Secretary enumerated the formidable list of costly but inescapable undertakings which comprise current and future development programmes. The community would not have it otherwise. We cannot, even if we wanted to, rest content with what has already been done, and Government's policy of pressing forward with its own improvement schemes and, by financial assistance, encouraging private agencies to do likewise, enjoys solid public support.

The cost is somewhat staggering, and it is only proper that the public should realise that for some time to come the Colony may have to go without substantial annual surpluses and replenishment of the General Revenue Balance. This need not cause concern provided we can keep within current revenue, or actual deficits are restricted to amounts small enough for the Colony's reserves to bear.

WHAT must go on, however, is the work of careful selection. Water being the dominant consideration, there cannot be any cavilling over projects which serve to eradicate the problem. Thus everyone will be deeply interested in the cautiously optimistic report on the practicability of the Lantau reservoir proposition.

Rather chillingly, the Financial Secretary reminded the public on Wednesday that Tai Lam Chung, which, up to now, will only double present water supplies, will mean five hours' supply a day instead of the present two and a half hours during the dry season. This, perhaps better than anything else, puts our water supply problem in proper perspective and emphasises that the Lantau scheme, if practicable, must be given top priority.

WITH housing and squatter resettlement acknowledged as the next most pressing demand, it comes as a surprise to learn that the Housing Authority has not been able to avail itself of Government's substantial dollar allocation for the construction of additional resettlement houses. There are probably very good reasons for the hiatus. Nevertheless, the general public will join with Government in hoping that during the next twelve months there will be no unnecessary delays in squatter resettlement and the construction of low-cost houses.

ATOMIC POWER FOR HK PROSPECTS

British Concerns Designing Plants

HK ELECTRIC CO INTERESTED

By A STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Leading British industrial concerns are designing atomic power plants for use in places like Hongkong.

A Hongkong representative of one British firm told me yesterday: "Designs for plants which can be used in places like Hongkong, Borneo and Malaya are well forward."

Yesterday, the Hongkong Electric Co. Chairman, Mr. B. T. Flanagan disclosed that the management "was actively considering the impact on the industry of developments in generation using fissionable material as a steam-raising medium."

He went on to say: "It appears that atomic power stations will be an economic possibility within the next 10 to 15 years, and it is obvious even at the present time that the economic advantages which will accrue are very considerable, especially in a territory such as Hongkong, dependent solely on imported fuel."

Shooting Down Of Plane Echo

Compensation For Widow And Daughter

Los Angeles, Mar. 1. Mrs. Frances Parish, who lost her husband and two of her three children when a British airliner was shot down by Chinese Communists off Hainan Island on July 23, 1951 will receive \$42,000 compensation for herself and the surviving child, Valerie, 7.

The settlement was allocated by a superior court judge here who decreed 80 per cent should go directly to the widow and 20 per cent should be held in trust for the child.

Captain Parish, engaged in buying aircraft for the Indonesian government, was on his way from Bangkok to Hongkong with his family at the time of the attack.

The People's Republic of China had paid \$87,000 in sterling to the British government for distribution among the claimants. There were eight survivors from the twelve passengers and six crew members.

The funds allotted to Mrs. Parish and her daughter, the court was informed, had been sent to the United States State Department to hold pending judicial determination.—Reuter.

STOLEN JEWELS FOUND

Nice, Mar. 1. Jewels valued at 250,000 francs, reported stolen more than two months ago from Prince Aly Khan's Riviera home, the Chateau de l'Horizon, were found today by workmen repairing the roof of the chateau. They belong to Mme Suzanne Bonafant, a guest at the chateau with her husband, General Bonafant, former Inspector-General of the French Air Force. On December 24, an intruder entered Mme Bonafant's room and took a handbag containing 40,000 francs and the jewels, which included a gold ring and necklace of cultured pearls. The money was not found.—China Mail Special.

ACTOR HUSBAND SEEKS ALIMONY

Hollywood, Mar. 1. The British actor, Maxwell Reed, estranged husband of film star Joan Collins, today asked her to give him alimony of \$1,950 a month. In a suit for separate maintenance filed in Superior Court on grounds of cruelty and desertion, he said Miss Collins was receiving more than \$1,000 a week for her work. Mr. Reed said his income during the past 12 months did not exceed \$1,000 and his assets totalled no more than \$2,400. He also asked Miss Collins to pay his \$15,000 lawyer's fee.

Later I spoke to representatives of leading British firms engaged in atomic power development. They are keeping interested Hongkong companies posted on the latest developments in Britain. These representatives included the manager of Babcock & Wilcox Ltd., Hongkong, Mr. C. W. Johnson, M. I. Mech E., and Mr. G. Thompson, representative of English Electric Co. Ltd. They discussed atomic power possibilities in Hongkong. But they stressed at the outset atomic power for this Colony and for most other parts of the world which were not highly developed industrially was a long way off. "It is not nearly cheap enough to serve countries with a low standard of living; it requires exceptionally heavy investment in most of them can ill afford," one said.

BIG ADVANTAGE

The chief advantage of an atomic power plant in this Colony would be that it could easily transport fuel that needs replenishing only once in two or three years. Hongkong would no longer have to depend on sea-borne fuel supplies, nor would its electrical companies ever be hindered by steeply rising coal prices that are causing concern to power stations in many parts of the world.

Broadly speaking the plant would probably work on this principle: gases or liquids are heated in an atomic reactor and then, in turn, heat water to steam pressure to drive conventional steam turbines.

Because Hongkong was so dependent upon imported fuel, Mr. Johnson said the "anticipated desired design" of a plant for use in this Colony would be one which could have its fuel replacements prepared locally—provided stocks of uranium were available (they might be obtainable possibly from Australia).

It is not possible, however, to speak in terms of costs yet. Mr. Johnson pointed out that Calder Hall atomic power station in Cumberland would not begin operations until about the middle of this year and "until this first station starts up and actual experience is obtained from results, the matter of costs per unit of power is still something to be explicitly determined." But, obviously, if it is possible to use fuel that lasts two or three years and costs are comparable with ordinary fuel costs, this would be a great attraction.

The General Manager of Hongkong Electric, Mr. W. Stoker said yesterday: "One of the big problems we have had

is the very big fluctuations in the price of fuel. And one of the great features of atomic power plants is that a piece of fuel lasts a considerable time before it is replaced.

"This is a development that deserves to be watched. The real point is that this kind of thing is more useful to a place like Hongkong (without its own natural sources of fuel) than in America where coal and oil is readily available. Also hydro-electric power is plentiful."

"Many places have a lot of natural fuel. Many places are completely without fuel. For places like Hongkong, atomic power is of very great use economically."

TWO STAGES

In Britain there are two stages in the development of commercial atomic power: stations of comparatively low thermal efficiency and stations of high thermal efficiency.

In the first case these stations should be able to sell electricity (Contd. on back page, Col. 2)

Ministry Spokesman Was Wrong EXPORT OF CARS TO CHINA

London, Mar. 1.

The Board of Trade tonight corrected a statement about the export of passenger cars to China made earlier in the House of Commons by Mr. Austin Low, its Minister of State.

Mr. Low had said, in reply to a question about East-West trade, that licences were not required to export ordinary passenger cars to China or the Soviet bloc countries.

It was incorrect and Mr. Low would take the necessary steps to see that the Commons was correctly informed.

The Board of Trade went on to say:

"The true position is that licences are required for the export of ordinary passenger cars to China, but such licences are issued freely."

Miss Lucy Is Expelled

New York, Mar. 1.

Negro student Lucinda "Lucy" Williams, who was expelled from the University of Alabama (Alabama) where this morning she was expelled from the University of Alabama.

She had been expelled by the university authorities after she was alleged to have accused the university administration of conspiring to organise demonstrations against her.

On her arrival here, Miss Lucy refused to make any statement. Her lawyer, Thurgood Marshall, who accompanied her, referring to the university's decision, said: "The Communist Party will benefit by this action, and will try to get Negroes to follow their lawless programme. The only two groups in this country to benefit by this action are the Board of Trustees of the White Citizens Council of the South and the Communist Party."

Mr. Reed, 35, has appeared in many British plays and films, including the film "The Square Ring."—China Mail Special.

Senseless Army Menial Tasks

Polishing Boot Polish Tins After Polishing Boots

London, Mar. 1.

The British War Minister, Mr. Anthony Head, today announced a civilian inquiry into "humdrum" and "menial" military practices like whitewashing coal so it can be seen in the dark.

Mr. Head admitted that many practices in the military were carried on today because of tradition only and "do not make sense." Among the other practices scheduled for reform: Polishing the sole of military boots as well as the tops. Polishing of boot polish tins after polishing the boots. Bedmaking. This "could well be done in more in the civilian manner," Mr. Head said.

A three-man civilian committee will inquire into humdrum jobs, menial jobs, and the waste of time by servicemen.

Mr. Head said the Government and the Ministry of Defence agreed the inquiry was justified.—United Press.

Attlee's Seat Retained By Socialists

London, Mar. 1.

Labour held the seat in the West Walthamstow parliamentary by-election here today—the constituency represented by Earl Attlee before he was created a peer on relinquishing leadership of the Labour Party.

The result, declared tonight, was:

Mr. E. C. Redhead (Labour) 13,388.

Mr. Richard Hornby (Conservative) 4,184.

Mr. Oliver Smedley (Liberal) 3,207.

Lt-Commander W. G. Bosker (Independent) 80.

Labour majority: 9,204.

At the general election last May, Earl Attlee—then Mr. Clement Attlee—held the seat in northern London, with a 9,250 majority in a straight fight with a Conservative.—Reuter.

POLICE BULLETS SLAY KILLER AND KIDNAPPER

New York, Mar. 1.

State police bullets early today ended the brief rampage of a New England tough who killed a policeman and kidnapped a nurse but could not bend the spirit of her young son.

At the finish, 12-year-old Johnny Herrington had the desperado's gun. He also had drawn first blood from the fugitive and was undisputed hero of a 12-hour chase through eastern Georgia.

Instantly killed by half dozen slugs from state troopers was Jerald Peter Beauchaire, 24, a minor criminal who suddenly turned killer last night.

Young Herrington, kidnapped with his mother during Beauchaire's subsequent flight, escaped harm as he ran to a protective circle of officers before they opened fire on the fugitive.

Mrs. John Herrington, Jr., who had been forced to drive Beauchaire on his 90-mile-an-hour flight, suffered a head wound when the gunman slugged her earlier at her home.

Beauchaire, who was wanted for a holdup, was stopped last night by policeman James H. Landrum at the market town of Louisville. He drew a pistol and shot Landrum, then got out of his car to beat the fallen officer with his gun.

WRECKS CAR

Speeding away, Beauchaire wrecked his car near Milton, 50 miles southeast of Louisville near the South Carolina line. He walked to the home of Mrs. Herrington, head nurse at Milton Hospital and wife of a chemist who was at work.

Johnny Herrington, a clean-cut boy, took it from there.

"I heard a commotion in the living room," he said. "I heard mother shouting and I got my .22 rifle from the closet with a bullet in it. I went in, and mother had been hit by a crowbar."

"I shot the man in the finger. The man took the gun away from me and tried to make me give him some more bullets. I gave him three or four. We got in the car with mother driving and me in the middle."

GAVE SIGNAL

They came to a roadblock as state police tried to cordon off the killer, the lad continued. The kidnapper forced Johnny to say that he was his brother and that they were going to the doctor's for Mrs. Herrington. But Mrs. Herrington managed to wave her hand in a signal for help and state highway patrol Cpl. R. I. Knight spotted it.

"The patrolman fired at the car," Johnny continued. "The man then put the gun to my head and made mother drive 90 miles an hour, passing other cars on curves. The state police stuck close behind and finally shot out a tire. He stumbled and fell and I got the gun and ran, and they killed him."—United Press.

Lloyd, Nasser Hold Talks

Cairo, Mar. 1.

Mr. Selwyn Lloyd, British Foreign Secretary, met the Egyptian Premier, Lieutenant-Colonel Gamal Abdel Nasser, here on the first day of his talks with Middle East and Asian leaders.

Mr. Lloyd, who is spending one day here on his way to Karachi, earlier met Dr. Mahmoud Fawzy, the Egyptian Foreign Minister.

Official sources said the main themes of tonight's talks were differences between Britain and the Egyptian-led Arab states over the Baghdad pact and increased Arab-Israeli tension following Egypt's arms purchase from the Soviet bloc.—Reuter.

Youths' Ambition

New York, Mar. 1.

University of Kentucky officials today announced the arrest on grand larceny and Federal narcotics charges of four students who told authorities they enrolled in school "to learn how to become big-time gangsters."

Two other youths, not students, were charged with joining in the university's dormitories without the school's consent. They were said to be part of the "gang."—United Press.

Magsaysay Fined

Manila, Mar. 2.

President Magsaysay of the Philippines was fined five pesos for driving without a licence yesterday.

The incident occurred when the President attended the second anniversary celebration of the armed forces base shop at Camp Murphy, Quezon City.—France-Press.

Chinese Murdered

Manila, Mar. 2.

A Chinese shop-owner in the town of Tiwi, Albay Province, southern Luzon, was killed by three armed robbers last night, according to reports reaching here this morning.

An army patrol in the vicinity arrested three men in connection with the murder.—France-Press.

'What I'd Tell My Child..'

Beginning in tomorrow's China Mail... four worldly people discuss what they would tell their children about... MONEY... MARRIAGE... and MORALS.

Don't miss this frank and candid report which will be continued in Monday's, Tuesday's and Wednesday's China Mail. George Gale begins the discussion tomorrow.

It is only one of the feature highlights in the big family favourite Saturday Mail. Watch out also for these:

★ Who bungled Dippi? After all these years the mystery still remains—who was responsible for the mounting of one of the greatest World War II debacles?

★ George Whiting, in his new series "The greatest day of their lives," brings Jim Peters to the columns of the China Mail.

★ Is exercise good or bad for you? Cedric Carne discusses a controversial subject.

There are all your regular favourites as well including Jane Roberts' reviews of the latest films showing in Hongkong, three pages of local and overseas pictures, special pages for women, children and sportsmen, cartoons, comic strips, puzzles—and Oiler—all in the China Mail.

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COMMENCING TO-DAY



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SOVIET BALLOONS OVER ALASKA

Also Recovered In Many Other Countries

Washington, Mar. 1.

The United States today disclosed that Soviet balloons have flown over American territory and reported that Russian balloons have been recovered in Japan, Turkey, Iran, Finland and Germany.

The disclosure was made in an American note, rejecting the latest Soviet protest against American meteorological balloons which have fallen on Soviet territory.

KEFAUVER FIGHTING



Sen. Kefauver

New York, Mar. 1.
Senator Estes Kefauver (Democrat—Tennessee) today announced he would enter the presidential election primaries in the State of New Jersey.

Primaries are held for each of the two big parties to elect delegates to the national conventions and to enable the voters to express their preference for the presidential candidates.—France-Press.

Danes Land Greenland Contract

Copenhagen, Mar. 1.
Six Danish firms united in a concern called Danish Arctic Contractors, and in co-operation with four American firms, have secured an 18,000,000-dollar (about £6,500,000) contract for work to be carried out at the American bases of Thule and Soender Strom for this summer.

This is the first time Danish contractors have obtained work in Greenland on equal terms with American in connection with United States military construction there.

The Danes will make labour available—probably 750 men, 450 of whom will leave for Thule in May by sea and air.—China Mail Special.

MAJESTIC

HELD OVER AGAIN
TO-DAY

at 2.30, 5.20, 7.30 & 9.30 p.m.



TO-MORROW
"THE VIEW from
POMPEY'S HEAD"
A Fox CinemaScope
Picture

The note was delivered to the Soviet Government in Moscow today by American Ambassador Charles Bohlen.

It proposed negotiation of an international agreement on the techniques, equipment and type of balloon used in weather research, and asked for reciprocal exchange by the United States and the Soviet Union of the balloons which have fallen on the territory of the two countries.

Alaska Only

A State Department spokesman said as far as he knew, Soviet balloons have flown over Alaska only as far as US territory was concerned, and he indicated that some of them had been recovered there.

The American note suggested that an international agreement could be worked out through the world meteorological organizations.

1. Asserted the American balloons, with their equipment, which fell on Soviet territory "rightfully belong to the United States."

2. Said that information on the recovery of Soviet balloons in other countries was based on "authenticated reports."

3. Rejected as "misleading" the Soviet charge that the US balloons constituted a danger to aerial navigation and that they were used for reconnaissance over Soviet territory.

Propaganda Ends

4. Turned down a Soviet proposal for exhibitions in America of instruments found in the American balloons. The Soviet authorities have exhibited this equipment in Moscow.

The American note said it "could only assume that the pursuit of this matter through exhibits or other means would be for propaganda ends." — France-Press.

LENIENT FATHERS ARE BEST

San Francisco, Mar. 1.
Lenient fathers make the best parents, according to Dr Jack Block, associate research psychologist at the University of California.

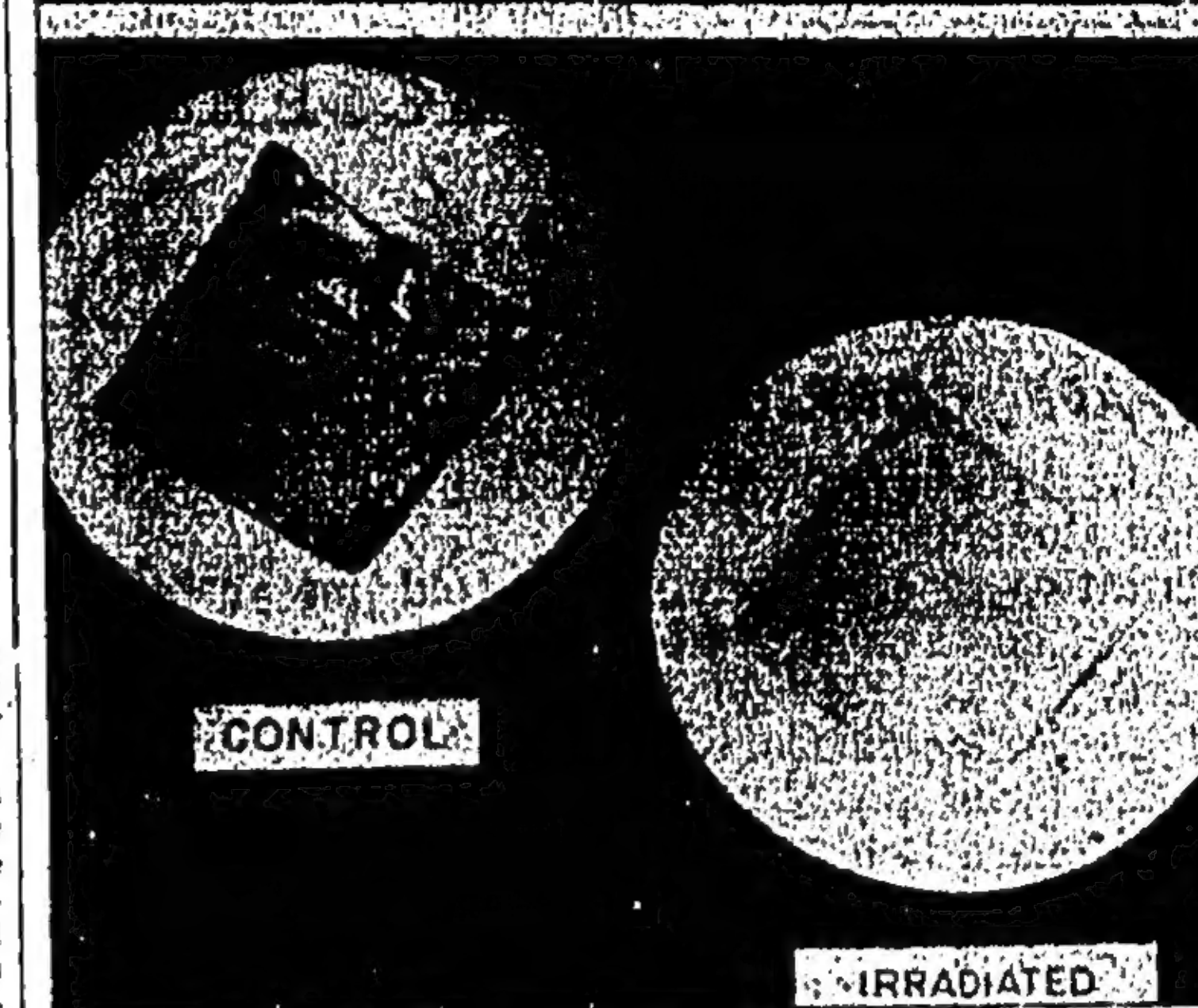
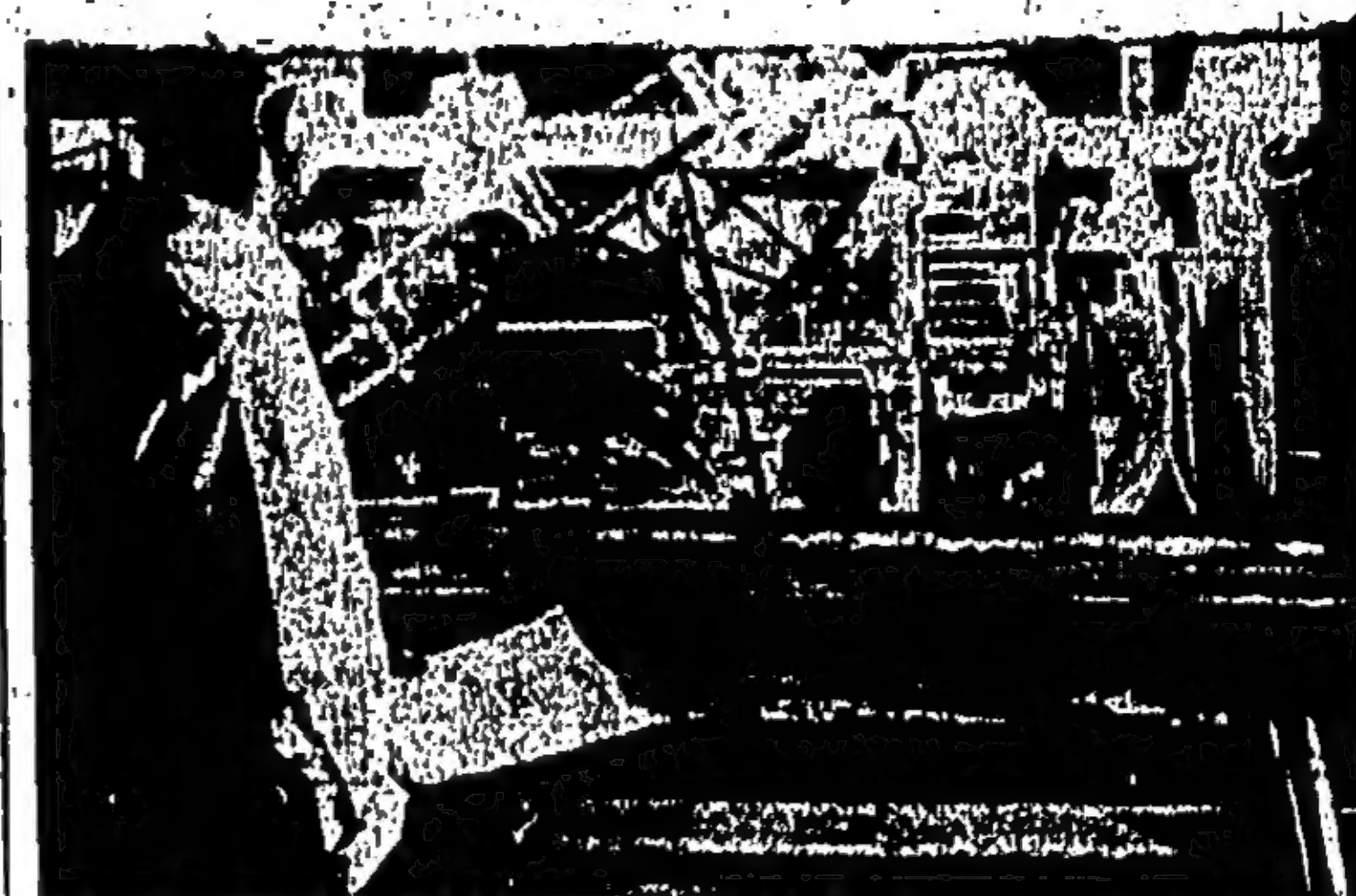
After an extensive series of written and interview tests on 100 fathers he decided:

The "restrictive" father is submissive, suggestible, conforming, indecisive, ineffectual and unconfident, appears to lack social pulse, and is inhibited.

The "permissive" father is self-reliant, communicative, persuasive, efficient, frank and sometimes sarcastic, and has a good sense of humour.

Dr Block predicted that the child reared in the environment of restrictiveness would probably later develop into a restrictive parent himself.

In effect, Dr Block said, the restrictive father revenges himself upon the wrong generation.—China Mail Special.



Gamma rays are being used to preserve food in tests conducted by the US Chemical Corps. Experiments are to find preservative methods superior to refrigeration and heat, which alter flavour, colour and texture. Picture shows (top): Tins of food are handled on a conveyor system, which drops them in front of the entrance hole of a tank-like structure (extreme right) containing a field of intense gamma radiation. The tins are pushed through by a rod, whose speed determines the amount of radiation.

Picture shows (bottom): Effectiveness of the irradiation process is illustrated by these two packages of cheese. Package on right was irradiated in May, 1954. Both packages were then placed on a shelf and left at room temperature for one year, wrapped in airtight packages to prevent contamination.—Express Photo.

Peronists Banned From Future Political Activity

Buenos Aires, Mar. 1.

The Argentine provisional government today banned from further political activity virtually all persons who held major administrative posts during the Peron regime.

A Government decree deprived of eligibility to vote or hold political office all persons who from June 1946 onwards held such posts as minister or under-secretary of state, federal delegate, territorial governor, minister or secretary and town mayor.

All persons who held office in the Peronist party were included under the new ban. A Government spokesman said tonight that another similar decree would be published soon, concerning persons who held lesser administrative posts during the Peron regime.

Determination

One of the main political figures affected by the decree is the former Foreign Minister, Senator Attilio Bramuglia, "purged" by Peron in 1951. Senator Bramuglia's recently formed "Popular Union" party is expected to win a large number of ex-Peronist votes in the forthcoming general elections.

The Government appeared to have decided to let Senator Bramuglia rally ex-Peronist voters rather than run the risk of their falling to the Communists.

Today's decree indicated the Government's determination to purge from public life all who collaborated with Peron, even those who later broke with him.—France-Press.

Cut Price Coins

Wellington, Mar. 1.
A seasonal flood of Australian coins, following the recent visit of cruise ships from Australia, is reported to be causing concern to shopkeepers, hotels and transport operators in various parts of New Zealand.

The principal offending coin is the Australian two-shilling piece. In New Zealand it is worth only one and sixpence.—China Mail Special.

Judo Postage Stamp

Tokyo, Mar. 1.
The Japanese Postal Ministry is issuing a new postage stamp on the theme of Judo.

It is being issued to mark the first world judo championships, to be held in Tokyo next May.—China Mail Special.

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Nuclear Tests Still Necessary

Reassurance For Japanese Vessels

By RALPH HARRIS

Washington, Mar. 1. **DETERMINATION** to protect Japanese fishing vessels at all costs was behind the United States' decision to extend the Pacific Ocean danger area for its new series of nuclear tests next month, authoritative sources told Reuter today.

The Japanese Government was given formal assurances of adequate protective measures before today's Atomic Energy Commission announcement revealed that the danger area had been increased to 370,000 nautical square miles.

It was understood that a State Department note was sent to the Foreign Office in Tokyo a few hours before the official announcement was made in Washington.

Boat Showered

Japan was told that the possibility of a repetition of the "Fortunate Dragon" incident, when a Japanese fishing boat was showered with radioactive ash during the 1954 nuclear test, was completely ruled out, barring unforeseen circumstances, as a result of the new safety precautions being adopted.

The new safety precautions include a change in the geographical position of the danger area as well as an impressive increase in its size. It is very much larger than the testing area used at the beginning of the 1954 Pacific tests, though slightly smaller than the area used towards the end of those tests.

But the "Fortunate Dragon" was caught on the outer limits of the 1954 experimental area at the beginning of the tests. Officials said the test area was now so large and the safety precautions so extensive that a fishing boat which accidentally found itself on the fringe would not be facing any danger from a radioactive fall-out.

Adequate Time

The State Department's note to Tokyo today was a reply to Japan's request in January for the fullest possible information about the safety to be adopted in the new test series. Officials now had adequate time to warn fleets preparing to leave for the Pacific fishing grounds.

At the same time, officials said, the State Department has declined to meet a Japanese request for an immediate guarantee of compensation in the event of a new radioactive fall-out on Japanese fishing boats or crews.

Japan was informed today that the matter was being studied but it was learned that the United States will not commit itself to a commitment in advance.—Reuter.

US WILL TAKE ALL PRECAUTIONS IN PACIFIC AREA

New York, Mar. 1.

The United States today affirmed in the United Nations that nuclear tests were still necessary but said that all feasible precautions would be taken to safeguard the inhabitants of territories where the tests were being made.

Mr Benjamin Gerig, the United States representative on the Trusteeship Council, said: "In the absence of effective international agreement, safeguarded by adequate inspection to limit or control armaments, preparations must still be made to develop methods of defence against nuclear attack and for the maintenance of international peace and security."

He was opposing a Soviet resolution moved yesterday which declared that nuclear tests in trust territories constituted a threat to the lives of the indigenous inhabitants and such tests were incompatible with the provisions of the trustees system.

Complaint

The question of nuclear tests in the Pacific was brought up two years ago in the Trusteeship Council, following a petition from the people of the Marshall Islands—a United States trust territory which includes the Bikini and Eniwetok testing grounds.

The Marshallese complained about the effects of the unexpected fall-out from an American hydrogen bomb explosion in 1954.

In 1954 the council passed a resolution calling on the administering authority to take precautions to ensure that no inhabitants of the trust territory were again endangered.

Mr Gerig said that since 1946 the United States Government had been urging the adoption of an effective and dependably controlled programme of disarmament.

Avoid Danger

"The day this programme becomes a reality, nuclear testing will become unnecessary," he added.

Referring to forthcoming tests, Mr Gerig said the United States Government "will see to it that all feasible precautions are taken to avoid endangering any inhabitant of the territory or any other people and will notify air and sea traffic of the details of the control area well in advance of the commencement of the operations."

The Soviet Union had raised the question of the tests during

discussion of the attainment of self-government by the peoples of trust territories.

Mr Gerig, the British, French and other delegates, opposed the Soviet resolution on the grounds that it was irrelevant to the item under discussion.

Direct Connection

The Soviet delegate, Mr V. Grubyshev, said he felt there was a direct connection between the two questions as the testing of nuclear weapons in trust territories created great obstacles to the attainment of self-government or independence.

The discussion was postponed until tomorrow after the Indian delegate, Mr V. K. Krishna Menon, said he was not prepared to speak on the matter today.—Reuter.

Coronation Week In Cambodia

Phnom Penh, Mar. 1.

Cambodia, the newly independent kingdom created out of what was once French Indo-China, begins a week of pomp and centuries-old ritual tomorrow for the coronation of its sovereign king Norodom Suramadi.

The seven days of pageantry will recall the time hundreds of years ago when the rule of the once powerful Khmer people extended over the fertile delta lands of Southeast Asia. From the richness of the religion of this age sprang the temples and city known today only as the ruins of Angkor Wat.

Succeeded Son

Phnom Penh, on the banks of the Mekong River, is decked out in colour today as a symbol of the loyalty of Cambodia's five million people for their 62-year-old monarch, the constitutional leader who succeeded his own son.

The previous king, Norodom Sihanouk, abdicated year ago in a voluntary choice so he could lead his people towards democracy. On Monday, March 5, the climax of the ceremonies, he will symbolise his stepping down from the throne when he personally gives the crown of the King of Cambodia to his father.—Reuter.

General Mirza Nominated Pakistan President

Karachi, Mar. 1.

The parliamentary group of the Pakistani Government coalition has decided to vote for Major-General Iskander Mirza at present Governor-General of Pakistan, as the country's first President, a well informed source stated here today.

The election of the President is due to take place next Monday.

General Iskander Mirza, 57, who was trained as an officer in Britain's military training school of Sandhurst, had a brilliant administrative career in the Indian Civil Service.

He became Governor of East Bengal in 1947, and then Minister of the Interior in the Pakistani Government. He was appointed Governor-General of Pakistan in 1955.—France Press.

Helicopters Aid In Jungle Fighting



A picture taken near Fort Shean in the Malayan jungle in the State of Pahang, when the new Chief of Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal Sir Dermot Boyle, made a visit of inspection. Here men of the advance detachment make their way through the tall grass to secure the landing zone in the heart of the jungle as the helicopter rises to return for more men.—Central Press Photo.

HONOURS ALL ROUND

Munich, Mar. 1.

All Bavarian citizens will in future be addressed in official letters as "Most Honoured Sir or Madam," and the letters will start off with "Yours respectfully."

In the past it was left to officials to decide who merited this form of address. For the rest a less elaborate formula was used.—China Mail Special.

Firemen Are Dentists And Lawyers

New York, Mar. 1.

ABOUT half of New York City's 11,500 firemen spend their off hours working at jobs ranging from dentistry to chimney sweeping and embalming. It was disclosed today.

A total of 5,159 "smoke eaters," replying to a questionnaire sent out by Fire-Chief Edward J. Cavanaugh, listed some 519 part-time jobs with which they boost their income.

The biggest number, 329, were salesmen. They sell tombstones, garage doors, bibles, real estate, ice cream, furniture, flowers, jewellery and beer.

Other Professions

Other professions listed were: 132 truck drivers, 110 gardeners, 35 lawyers, 35 bartenders, 23 musicians or music professors, 18 carpenters, 2 chimney-sweepers, 2 embalmers, 3 reporters, 1 dentist, 1 construction sea captain and a banana-processor.

One fireman hipped broadly that he was a liquor taster ("liquor picker").

A fireman's starting salary is 4,000 dollars annually with periodic boosts thereafter. Their work shifts are geared to give them plenty of time off to follow their extra-curricular jobs.—France Presse.

Wandering Sterling 'Repatriated'

Durban, Mar. 1.

Nine cases of English coins which "strayed" into circulation in Durban were loaded on to the mailship, Winchester Castle to be "repatriated" to the Bank of England.

Because Durban is a seaport city, a large amount of English money finds its way into local circulation and eventually, when there is enough on hand, it is placed in boxes and returned to England.

The consignment, which was stowed in the mailship's bullion room, was valued at several thousand pounds.—China Mail Special.

West Alliance Must Not Relax Efforts — TWO PRESIDENTS

Washington, Mar. 1.

President Eisenhower and President Giovanni Gronchi of Italy issued a joint communique today saying that the present world situation "does not allow any relaxation of the Western defence efforts."

President Eisenhower and Signor Gronchi, who is on a State visit to Washington, also agreed that Italy no longer required economic aid grants from the United States.

They said Italy could meet some of her economic problems by the extension of sound public and private long-term foreign investments.

The communique said the two leaders had "agreed on the necessity of further deepening and extending the solidarity among the members of the North Atlantic community through increased co-operation among them in all fields."

Would Benefit

They said that the entire free world would benefit by any improvement in the West's economy and the development of the less-advanced economies within it.

"The problem facing Italy, it was agreed, is the improvement of the conditions which are necessary to help industrial development, particularly in the south, and further to attract private, national and foreign investments," the communique said.—Reuter.

More Aust. Aid For Ceylon

Colombo, Mar. 1.

Australia's External Affairs Minister, Mr R. G. Casey, announced here tonight that Australia will allocate a further 7,500,000 rupees (about £350,000 sterling) to Ceylon under the Colombo aid plan.

He said that, since the start of the plan, Australia had made available to Ceylon about 30 million rupees (about £2,150,000 sterling) worth of capital goods and equipment. This amounted to about 10 per cent of all Australia's Colombo plan aid to South and Southeast Asia.

The new allocation provides for a rice research institute, an institute of hygiene and five million rupees (about £350,000 sterling) worth of agricultural machinery and other equipment to help Ceylon's food production drive.

Mr Casey, who arrived here on Tuesday, leaves for Karachi tomorrow to attend the South-East Asia Treaty Organisation conference which opens there on March 6.—Reuter.

Santa Monica, Mar. 1.

Singer Jo Stafford gave birth to a daughter here today. She and her husband, Paul Weston, a record company executive, have a son, Timothy John, aged three.—China Mail Special.

200,000 Finns Strike SERVICES & INDUSTRY SEVERELY AFFECTED

Helsinki, Mar. 1.

Altogether 200,000 Finnish workers went on strike this morning, following a deadlock in their demand for increased wages. The Finnish CGT (Workers Union) has been demanding higher wages for its members after the Agricultural Producers Union had decided to increase prices recently.

The strike affects the whole of Finnish industry. This morning not one factory in Finland was open. All trains, boats, trams and planes were stopped. There were no postal services except telephones and telegrams, and no newspapers.

The agricultural producers stopped all deliveries as a reply to the CGT action and today milk was already in short supply, while rationing of meat and butter was being contemplated.

Roaring Taxi Trade

All food-shops were besieged by housewives intent on "stocking up" for the emergency. Hotels were still open but they were serving no wine and no alcohol today.

Office workers were going to work on foot or by ski. Taxi drivers did a roaring trade.

The CGT leaders and the Agricultural Producers Union representatives did not meet today.

Political activity was, however, intense, after two weeks of complicated negotiations.

The Social Democrat leader Mr K. A. Fagerholm, finally agreed to try to form a government. It was thought tonight that his coalition government would be made up of seven Social Democrats, six Agrarians and two members of the Swedish Liberal Party.

Not For Long

The position of Premier fell vacant on February 15, when the then Premier, Mr Urho Kekkonen, was elected President of Finland to replace ageing Juho Paasikivi.

The strike is not expected to last long, but is probable that it will not be settled before Sunday at the earliest.—France Presse.

RAF CHIEF TO VISIT HONGKONG

London, Mar. 2.

Two British Royal Air Force chiefs will leave here on Sunday for tours of the Far East, Australia and New Zealand, the Air Ministry announced today (Friday).

Air Vice Marshal A. McKee, Air Officer Commanding in Chief, Transport Command, will discuss matters of common interest with the Royal Australian and Royal New Zealand Air Forces.

He will arrive in Hongkong on April 6.

Atomic Tests

Air Vice Marshal R. B. Lees, Assistant Chief of the Air Staff (Operations) who will leave with him, will inspect arrangements for the air task force which is to co-operate in the British atomic tests in the Monte Belle Islands to be held sometime in April.

Air Vice Marshal Lees will then go on to Singapore to discuss operational matters with the Commander-in-Chief, Far East Air Force.—Reuter.

Mambas Are So Affectionate

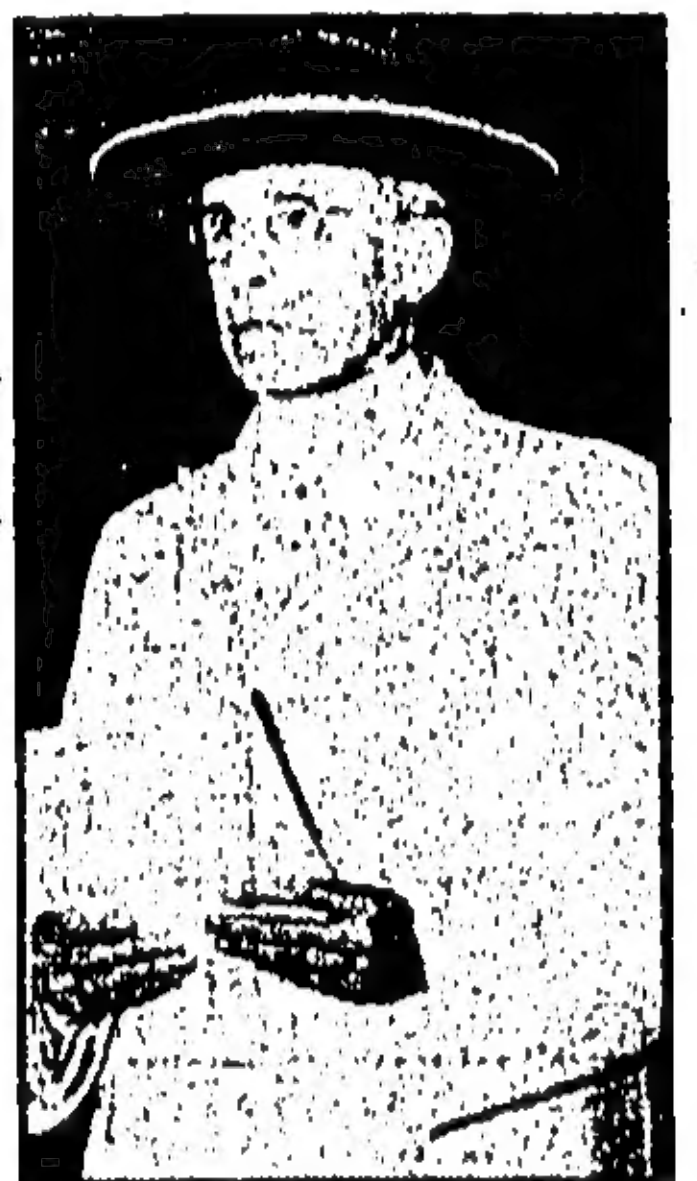
Pictetmaritzburg, Mar. 1.

A railway employee of Pictetmaritzburg, Mr G. Wassenaar, who keeps mambas for pets, reports that they are "affectionate, quiet and clean."

Mr Wassenaar has been catching snakes ever since he could walk, and has already caught 134 mambas.

He sells mambas for anything from £5 to £20 and some of his snakes have found their way to zoos in New York, Hamburg, London and other cities overseas.

He recommends mambas and pythons as ideal pets.—China Mail Special.



Pope Pius XII

Pope Pius XII Eighty Today

Vatican City, Mar. 1.

TWO hundred children from 15 nations, including Britain, Ireland and Canada, will tomorrow give the world's greetings to Pope Pius XII on his 80th birthday.

While 480 million Roman Catholics throughout the world pray for the Pope at special services, the children will dance hand in hand round the austere white-robed figure of the Pontiff, chanting an Italian version of "Happy Birthday To You". Four of the smallest children will offer the Pope a birthday cake with 80 candles, while the others will make short speeches in their own language wishing him long life.

Shortly afterwards the Pope will receive his Cardinals in audience. He is also celebrating tomorrow the 17th anniversary of his election to the Papal throne.

Formal Celebrations

On orders from the Pope, formal Vatican celebrations will be limited to a grandiose ceremony in St Peter's Basilica on March 11, the vigil of the anniversary of his coronation.

Tens of thousands of pilgrims will be able to salute the Pontiff on Saturday during a general audience to all comers in the vast Vatican Basilica. Two Italian cripples were wheeled into the main entrance hall of the Vatican Palace to-night to give the Pope two birthday presents on behalf of "all who suffer in this world."

The presents were a giant bouquet of 80 red roses and a host—"symbol of suffering"—which the Pope will use when he celebrates Mass tomorrow. The Vatican post and telegraph offices was tonight submerged in the greatest flood of mail and telegrams in the Vatican's history.—Reuter.

Hiroshima Film Award

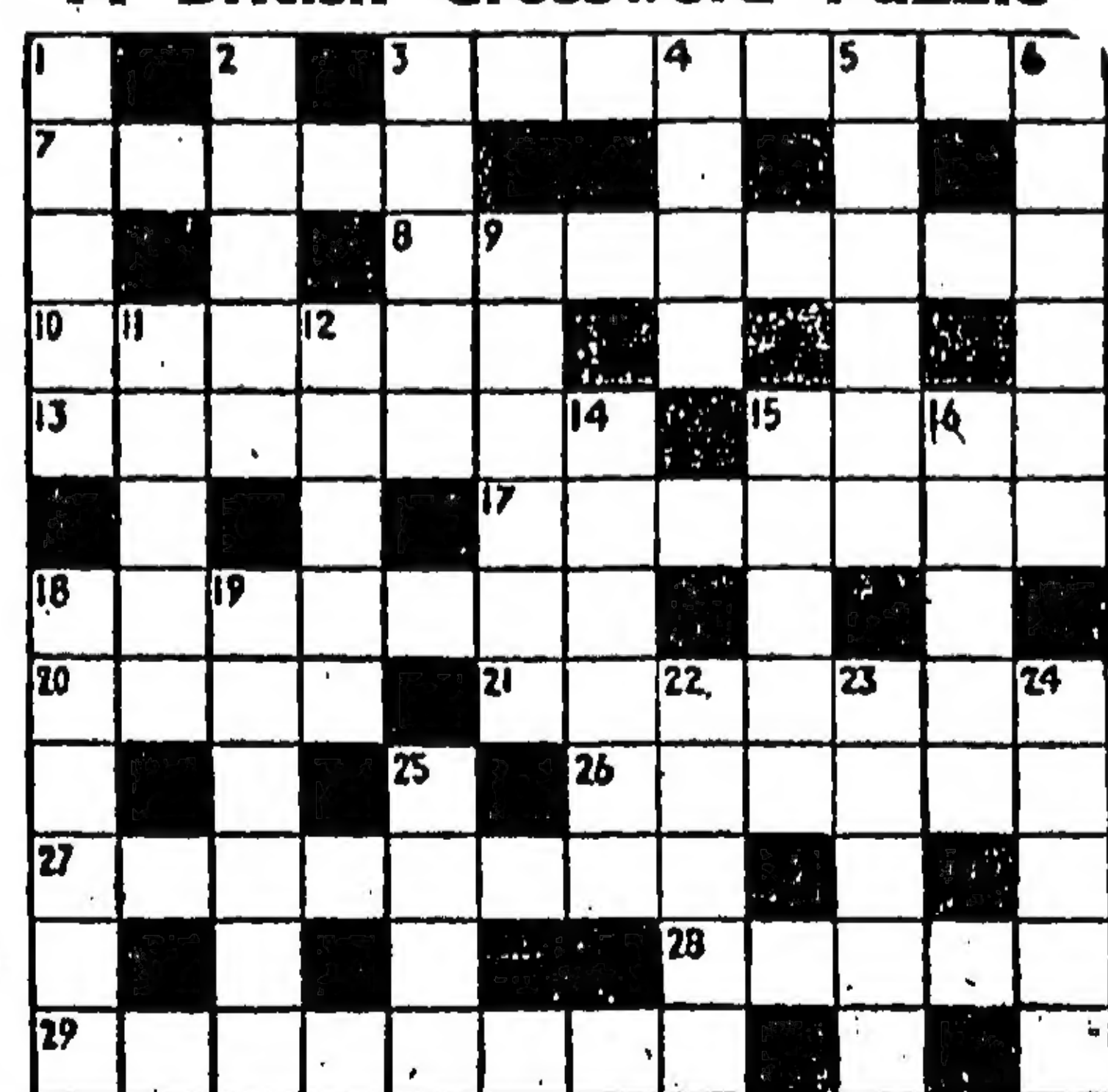
London, Mar. 1.

Madame N. Kawakita, wife of the well-known Japanese producer, accepted the British Film Academy United Nations award tonight for the film "Children of Hiroshima."

Dressed in a kimono she walked on to the stage, accompanied by Japanese music, bowed deeply, and said: "On behalf of the Japanese film industry I deeply thank you for the most encouraging award which we have ever received."

—Reuter.

A British Crossword Puzzle



- ACROSS
- 3 Sprays (8)
 - 7 Pull (5)
 - 8 Easter on the eye (8)
 - 10 Coins (6)
 - 13 Rubbed walk (7)
 - 15 Melt (4)
 - 17 Precious stone (7)
 - 18 Take the chair (7)
 - 20 Reptiles (4)
 - 21 Rubbing out (7)
 - 22 Channel for rain-water (6)
 - 27 Hia (6)
 - 28 Lodia (6)
 - 29 Tacitful (8)
- DOWN
- 1 Box (5)
 - 2 Provide for (5)
 - 3 Pigment (5)
 - 4 Preposition (4)
 - 5 Japese dancing girl (6)
 - 6 Aslate (6)
 - 9 Withdraw (6)
 - 11 Noblemen (6)
 - 12 Vexed (5)
 - 14 Come out (6)
 - 15 Have confidence in (5)
 - 16 Solitary (5)
 - 17 Aslanted (5)
 - 19 Periods (6)
 - 22 Financial check (5)
 - 23 European country (6)
 - 24 Solza (5)
 - 25 Prophet (4)

YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD: Across—1. Appar, 5. Rogue, 8. Fever, 9. Fall, 10. Cavi, 11. Remit, 12. Cite, 13. Posed, 14. Asort, 18. Assets, 20. Dales, 22. Sur, 23. Reads, 25. Basin, 26. Elated, 27. Alone, 28. Peels, 29. Twists. Down—1. Affected, 2. Palatal, 3. Afar, 4. Release, 5. Recipes, 6. Orator, 7. Unlilo, 8. Palatal, 10. Degraded, 16. Assents, 17. Student, 18. Serial, 21. Abates, 24. Slow.

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S. C. M. POST OFFICES

HONG KONG

KOWLOON



Meet the third girl on the left..

By JOHN BARBER

CHORUS Girls Get More Pay, was a headline that made most people smile. People who think they know just how "lovelies" live.

"Saucy eyes and free meals go together. So do they really need the extra?"

Well, it is not at all like that now: cinders at the stage door are severely discouraged. "We've snubbed them so often, they hardly come any more," says Peggy Watson, of the Palladium. "There is little social life outside the theatre."

Says Babbie McManus, at the Garrick: "Not many will go out with Johnnies. It's looked down upon. We marry inside the profession — dancers or musicians as poor as ourselves."

The modern chorus girl is a tough, trained athlete. Most of her pay is spent on her job. If she had an extra £1 or so, how would it go? "On food mostly," they say. "Meat, not potatoes. Oh, and singing lessons."

TROUBLE IS...

A LOT of London girls live in rooms. They like Hampstead, or Bayswater. They pay £3 10s a week, which includes "use of kitchen" or a gas-ring. At least £3 a week goes on food.

Trouble is, on average they work only 40 weeks in the year.

*THE NEW minimum is to be £9 10s a week in the West End of London.

Most try to save a little, because if you take a part-time job between shows you can't attend auditions. Then your clothes must be extra smart. When you go for a job, you join the line-up in street clothes.

"If a girl looks well then," says a producer, "she'll look well in stage costume."

Then practice dress. Elastic lights come at two guineas a time. And shoes. Sighs one girl: "You have to have ballet shoes, and point shoes, and character shoes. They cost anything from 30s. to £5 a pair. And they last no time."

AND CULTURE

GIRLS have to buy all their own face make-up. ("Body make-up" is supplied by the management.) "Can cost you a quid a week. Honestly. False eyelashes are a guinea a pair."

Then there are back-stage tips. The call-boy, the stage doorkeeper, and the dresser all expect their whack. Say 10s.

On top of it all—lessons. Dancing classes: 6s. to 10s. a time. Pretty Jean Price, Palladium dancer, spends three guineas a week on voice-training. She does not want to stay in the chorus.

Then what happens if they get engaged to "a musician or a dancer?" Says just-engaged dancer Virginia Courtney: "I'll be mad economy for us, to get a home together."

So if the girl, at the end of the line is not smiling between high-kicks, you know why. She did not go to bed late.

She is most likely wondering if she should blow that £5 a pair of corolla or a new powder puff.

MISS MATHESON STEPS BACK 5000 YEARS

by ANNA LANDAU



SYLVIA MATHESON
Mice played beneath her string bed

EARLY one evening in a small bungalow on the borders of Afghanistan, a visiting Englishwoman flung down her book, rushed out to the side of the house and scabbled furiously in the rubbish heap. The Indian servants stared in amazement but Sylvia Matheson had not gone mad. She had turned archaeologist. And the key to her behaviour lay in the old gazetteer she had been reading. It told of a prehistoric mound and that mound, it said, was the site of a modern bungalow on the Afghan border.

That happened ten years ago. Now Sylvia Matheson has come back from an expedition to a five-thousand-year-old temple—the latest "dig" in the career that started among the vegetable peelings. For once she had worked the minerals from the vegetables. Miss Matheson took them to Sir Mortimer Wheeler in Delhi. Sir Mortimer was impressed and suggested for Miss Matheson a six months' course in prehistory at London University.

Too recent

But not all archaeology appeals to Miss Matheson. Roman remains? Miss Matheson dismisses them. "Too recent," she says, and insists on going back at least another thousand years before she feels at home.

And this she does in Afghanistan. "There," says Miss Matheson, "I feel as if I really belong. As if I really lived there in a previous life. I'm often taken for an Afghan woman, you know. I just hope I wasn't a slave."

For, as she slips sherry in her Regent's Park flat, Sylvia Matheson, darkly pretty in a tartan dress and Afghan waistcoat, explains that she likes the creature comforts.

Unfortunately, Afghanistan provided only the creature comforts. Mice played beneath her string bed—until one night she felt through it the slings had been nibbled away. And evening company in the lonely mud huts was provided by the beasts of the desert.

Lovely colour

After eight-thirty bedtime the silence of the Afghan night was broken only by the tapping of Miss Matheson's typewriter and the rustle of scorpions in the leafy roof. Every now and then a yellow-green tarantula would plop on to the floor—"Such a lovely colour," sighed Miss Matheson nostalgically. "Just matched a dress of mine."

What were the living conditions like in the desert? For food the expedition relied on tins, the local sheep and scrawny chickens. Drinking water came once a week from Kandahar—a three-hour drive away. Showers were rigged up out of petrol tins and a hose.



WAS I A SLAVE IN AN ANCIENT TEMPLE?

And meals were taken in a central mud-hut dining-room. Eight more of the 13 construction levels of the ancient building have still to be excavated before it is known whether it was a palace or a temple, who lived there and how. And Miss Matheson wants to go back in August and find out.

Meanwhile the archaeologist's curiosity about other people's lives matched the woman's interest in other people's clothes.

Miss Matheson brought out her careful of Afghan oddments. Though she had little money to spend after mailing back her skins to the Royal Geographical Society, there was one piece of lavish blue and gold embroidery that was given to her. By a girl who wanted Miss Matheson to marry her cousin. Miss Matheson accepted the embroidery, but refused the man.

Strange statue

In the desert a Western woman attracts plenty of attention—not always favourable. Miss Matheson shocked the Afghans, who came from outlying villages to help at the diggings, by wearing short-sleeved shirts. "Is it good for a woman to show her skin?" they asked. Out in the midday sun the Englishwoman agreed it was not.

And then Miss Matheson showed me an Afghan dress. A green silk robe enveloped her from head to toe—traditional purdah was complete. Like a strange copper statue, the hooded figure stood by the gas fire.

Not a gleam of its eyes showed through the tulle work that covered its face. It made a yashmak seem decollete.

From behind the tulle came a muffled voice, aimed at the camera. "Shall I smile?" It asked. The smile was still there when the sun-tanned Englishwoman lifted the veil. But for a moment 5,000 years seemed so long ago.

PARIS NEWSLETTER from SAM WHITE

THE COUNTESS ISSUES PASSPORTS FOR A BALL

LONG on culture but short on drinks has been the traditional summing-up of the annual fancy-dress ball given by the Viscountess Marie-Laure de Noailles in her Paris residence. No such implied disparagement could be levelled at the party she gave this year.

The electric bulbs fitted to the eyes of suckling pigs decorating the buffet tables blinked continuously at an astonishing assembly comprising Parisian bohemia and international big money.

The guests had to come as writers, painters or musicians from their own country living between the 16th and 19th century. A concession was made in the case of women guests and they were allowed to come as the subject of a painting or a book.

PUZZLEMENT

Three months before the party guests had to "declare" who they were going to represent. Then they were issued with "passports" signed by themselves and countersigned by the hostess.

These were closely checked before each guest was admitted to the ball, and as each one entered, trumpeters from the Medrano Circus blared out a French anthem, "Glory to our Ancestors."

A liveried flunky announced the guests as he or she reached the top of a massive staircase, according to the literary figure supposedly represented.

There were received by the 69-year-old Viscountess in a dress of black velvet embroidered with gold leaves and

with her hair decorated with branches of ivy.

The air was thick with puzzlement.

Mrs Pamela Churchill, dressed as Olivia in "A Midsummer Night's Dream," arrived with a party of guests which included Lady Diana Cooper, widow of Lord Norwich, dressed as Lady Blessington, Lady Lambton as Lady Windermere, and Mrs Ian Fleming as a famous 19th century demi-mondaine, Harriette Wilson.

EXQUISITE

Mr Anthony Pawson was an exquisite figure dressed as the Tudor miniatureist Hilliard. Mr Roland Penrose came as Tristanram Shandy, and Guy de Lesseps, grandson of the builder of the Suez Canal, came as the Master of Ballantyne, host to Prince Charles during the Stuart rebellion.

The Chilean millionaire, Arturo Lopez, made a dramatic entry. He had broken his leg skiing at St Moritz and was carried in on a litter, followed by his beautiful wife.

That other Latin American millionaire, Carlos Bestigui, no mean a party thrower himself, had flown specially from Mexico to be present.

A word about the hostess. The Viscountess, whose profile is generally considered to bear a striking resemblance to Louis XV, was born at Vischoffheim, the daughter of a Frankfurt banking family. The tale is her husband's, who is a horticulturalist and never attends her parties.

A SCENE

There was something of a scene at the world premiere of Commander Courtenay's film

of under-water exploration, "The Silent World."

This was provoked by the presence on this bejewelled occasion of publisher Rene Julliard and his latest and most useful protegee (his previous one was Francois Sagan, of "Bonjour Tristesse"), eight-year-old poetess Minou Drouot, Julliard, in black tie, bird cined Minou earlier at a fashionable restaurant and oddly enough photographers were on hand to take pictures.

Then the pair proceeded to the premiere. Came the interval and the traditional eye popping parade. This time, however, Minou and her escort stole the show.

As the crowd surged around them and photographers blazed away, M. Julliard made a show of impatience. "After all," he remonstrated, "can't you see she is just a child." The reaction was inevitable. From all sides came shouts: "Well, if she is a child why isn't she in bed?"

BACKGROUND

THE French Foreign Office has received an interesting background report from its Embassy in Moscow on the appointment of Burgess and Maclean.

POINT ONE: Burgess apparently was wearing an Old Etonian tie at his meeting with two British reporters in Moscow.

POINT TWO: As to the reason why the Russians produced this pair at this moment, the French have a theory which makes a great deal more sense than any of the suggestions so far offered.

It is this: according to the French, Britain has been laying down "conditions" for the forthcoming visit of Bulganin and Krushchev to London. This has angered the Russians, who

foresee the possibility that the visit may be called off.

They have therefore produced Burgess and Maclean with the implied warning that if Anglo-Russian relations deteriorate to such a pass, this pair will be used as the spearhead for a propaganda offensive.

QUOTE

BARRISTER MORRO GIFFER:—"Don't ever count on the eternal love of a young man of 20. Save that kind of stuff for the aged."

POCKET CARTOON by OSBERT LANCASTER



Langham 44681: I wish to report a gross breach of privilege! Tonight's speaker has just told a laughable anecdote which I was reserving for spontaneous use on the floor of the House!



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and good
cooks...

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BRITISH COMMONWEALTH ATHLETICS IN 1955

MIDDLE AND LONG DISTANCE RUNNING
STANDARD GOES UP, LITTLE
PROGRESS IN THE FIELD EVENTS

By "RECORDER"

British Commonwealth and Empire standards in the middle and long distance running events continued on the upgrade in 1955, a vastly improved Australian and New Zealand standard contributing as much as the steadily improving standard in the British Isles.

It may now be said that Britain has more outstanding distance runners than any other country in the world and Australia comes third in this respect after Hungary.

A noteworthy feature of 1955 Empire athletics was the fact that 30 athletes broke the once magic figure of 4 minutes 10 seconds for the mile. Had the great Jack Lovelock competed in 1955 instead of 1953, he would not only have failed to lead the world in this event but would have been ranked only 16th in the Commonwealth and Empire.

Progress in the field events was almost nil, except for a slightly improved standard in the javelin and hammer throws.

Many of the smaller colonies excited into activity in 1954 by the British Commonwealth and Empire Games at Vancouver, failed to produce a comparable number of outstanding performers in 1955.

Most notable progress was that of Nigeria, where the 100 yards dash continues to rise. In fact, the country has contributed more outstanding athletes to the Commonwealth ranking lists than any other country in the early months of the current year, a fact that there will be an even larger Indian contribution in 1956.

Below are the performers in the British Commonwealth and Empire in 1955.

100 YARDS DASH

| | |
|-------------------------------|--------|
| 94. Ahmed Agostini (Trinidad) | 94.80 |
| 94.90 | 94.90 |
| 94.95 | 94.95 |
| 95.00 | 95.00 |
| 95.05 | 95.05 |
| 95.10 | 95.10 |
| 95.15 | 95.15 |
| 95.20 | 95.20 |
| 95.25 | 95.25 |
| 95.30 | 95.30 |
| 95.35 | 95.35 |
| 95.40 | 95.40 |
| 95.45 | 95.45 |
| 95.50 | 95.50 |
| 95.55 | 95.55 |
| 95.60 | 95.60 |
| 95.65 | 95.65 |
| 95.70 | 95.70 |
| 95.75 | 95.75 |
| 95.80 | 95.80 |
| 95.85 | 95.85 |
| 95.90 | 95.90 |
| 95.95 | 95.95 |
| 96.00 | 96.00 |
| 96.05 | 96.05 |
| 96.10 | 96.10 |
| 96.15 | 96.15 |
| 96.20 | 96.20 |
| 96.25 | 96.25 |
| 96.30 | 96.30 |
| 96.35 | 96.35 |
| 96.40 | 96.40 |
| 96.45 | 96.45 |
| 96.50 | 96.50 |
| 96.55 | 96.55 |
| 96.60 | 96.60 |
| 96.65 | 96.65 |
| 96.70 | 96.70 |
| 96.75 | 96.75 |
| 96.80 | 96.80 |
| 96.85 | 96.85 |
| 96.90 | 96.90 |
| 96.95 | 96.95 |
| 97.00 | 97.00 |
| 97.05 | 97.05 |
| 97.10 | 97.10 |
| 97.15 | 97.15 |
| 97.20 | 97.20 |
| 97.25 | 97.25 |
| 97.30 | 97.30 |
| 97.35 | 97.35 |
| 97.40 | 97.40 |
| 97.45 | 97.45 |
| 97.50 | 97.50 |
| 97.55 | 97.55 |
| 97.60 | 97.60 |
| 97.65 | 97.65 |
| 97.70 | 97.70 |
| 97.75 | 97.75 |
| 97.80 | 97.80 |
| 97.85 | 97.85 |
| 97.90 | 97.90 |
| 97.95 | 97.95 |
| 98.00 | 98.00 |
| 98.05 | 98.05 |
| 98.10 | 98.10 |
| 98.15 | 98.15 |
| 98.20 | 98.20 |
| 98.25 | 98.25 |
| 98.30 | 98.30 |
| 98.35 | 98.35 |
| 98.40 | 98.40 |
| 98.45 | 98.45 |
| 98.50 | 98.50 |
| 98.55 | 98.55 |
| 98.60 | 98.60 |
| 98.65 | 98.65 |
| 98.70 | 98.70 |
| 98.75 | 98.75 |
| 98.80 | 98.80 |
| 98.85 | 98.85 |
| 98.90 | 98.90 |
| 98.95 | 98.95 |
| 99.00 | 99.00 |
| 99.05 | 99.05 |
| 99.10 | 99.10 |
| 99.15 | 99.15 |
| 99.20 | 99.20 |
| 99.25 | 99.25 |
| 99.30 | 99.30 |
| 99.35 | 99.35 |
| 99.40 | 99.40 |
| 99.45 | 99.45 |
| 99.50 | 99.50 |
| 99.55 | 99.55 |
| 99.60 | 99.60 |
| 99.65 | 99.65 |
| 99.70 | 99.70 |
| 99.75 | 99.75 |
| 99.80 | 99.80 |
| 99.85 | 99.85 |
| 99.90 | 99.90 |
| 99.95 | 99.95 |
| 100.00 | 100.00 |

220 YARDS DASH

| | |
|-------|-------|
| 21.10 | 21.10 |
| 21.15 | 21.15 |
| 21.20 | 21.20 |
| 21.25 | 21.25 |
| 21.30 | 21.30 |
| 21.35 | 21.35 |
| 21.40 | 21.40 |
| 21.45 | 21.45 |
| 21.50 | 21.50 |
| 21.55 | 21.55 |
| 21.60 | 21.60 |
| 21.65 | 21.65 |
| 21.70 | 21.70 |
| 21.75 | 21.75 |
| 21.80 | 21.80 |
| 21.85 | 21.85 |
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CHINA MAIL

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HUNTLEY & PALMER, stall in
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Year's Eve, sold a Fairbank's
per minute for 10 hours, over 100
of biscuits. Have you tried these new
packets of biscuits? A wide variety
available from leading grocers and
NAAF shops.

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SOMETHING EXCLUSIVE. Col-
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from 20 cents per packet upwards.
An entirely new series, South
China Morning Post Ltd. Wyndham
Street, Hong Kong and Salisbury
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STAMP ALBUMS - Collection
holders' series. New stock now
available. K. F. Chow, South China
Morning Post Ltd. Wyndham Street,
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**THE HONGKONG AND
SHANGHAI BANKING
CORPORATION**
Ordinary Yearly General
Meeting

NOTICE IS HEREBY
GIVEN that the Ordinary
Yearly General Meeting of the
Shareholders of the Cor-
poration will be held at the
Head Office of the Cor-
poration, 1 Queen's Road, Central,
Hong Kong, on Friday, the
16th day of March, 1956, at
Noon for the purpose of
receiving and considering the
reports of the Directors and
of the Auditors and of the
Profit and Loss Account and
Balance Sheet for the year
ended 31st December, 1955,
and for the election of Directors
and fixing their remuneration
and the appointment of Auditors.

THE REGISTER OF
SHARES of the Corporation
will be closed from Friday,
the 2nd of March to Friday,
the 16th of March, 1956,
(both days inclusive) during
which period no transfer of
shares can be registered.

By Order of the Board,
MICHAEL W. TURNER,
Chief Manager.

NOTICE
THE BANK OF EAST ASIA,
LIMITED

Thirty-Seventh Ordinary
Yearly General Meeting

NOTICE IS HEREBY
GIVEN that the Ordinary
Yearly General Meeting of the
Shareholders of the Bank will
be held at the Head Office of
the Bank, 10, Des Voeux Road,
Central, Hong Kong, on
Saturday, the 24th day of
March, 1956, at 2.30 p.m.,
for the purpose of receiving
and considering the Reports of
the Directors and of the
Auditors and the Profit and
Loss Account and Balance
Sheet for the year ended 31st
December, 1955, and for the
election of Directors and the
appointment of Auditors.

The Register of Shares of
the Bank will be closed from
Saturday, 17th March, 1956
to Saturday, 24th March, 1956
(both days inclusive) during
which period no transfer of
shares can be registered.

By Order of the Board,
KAN TONG PO,
Chief Manager.

Hongkong, 1st March, 1956.

Estonia Becomes A Country Of Rackets

Stockholm, Mar. 1.

Estonia, incorporated into the Soviet Union since the war, has become a country of "rackets" under Soviet rule, according to reports brought by a group of refugees who reached Sweden recently.

Many of the "rackets", the refugees say, and their reports have been checked against other sources, are run by Russian officers stationed in Estonia since the incorporation. They and the Estonian Communist party officials working with them in Tallinn, the capital, have made the "Laine" restaurant in Reekojä Street, the headquarters of their illicit traffic.

The Estonian with money in his pocket goes to the "Laine" where he wants a better flat. He can get a flat of ten or a length of a good quality suit. The Soviet officers and their Estonian Communist colleagues can provide these commodities because they hold positions in the state departments which supply them.

FOUR TIMES RENT

This is particularly so in the case of flats which are allowed to take up residence in the capital since he is given a special permit in advance. This permit is usually issued for him by his office in the factory, but the factory is giving a permanent home as its own responsibility.

He can obtain one by using a Soviet office of an Estonian Communist Party official who has received a flat for use as his own "extra official residence".

The homeless Estonian will be able to rent this flat from the office or the official for anything up to 200 roubles per room per month or some four times the fixed rent of 50 to 60 roubles per room per month which the office or the official will be paying to the state.

Nevertheless, the 200 roubles rate charged the Estonian is quite legal since the law does not fix any maximum to the rent which flatholders may charge their lodgers during the first six months of tenancy. During this period, therefore, the racketeer is making a monthly profit of 150 to 170 roubles.

REPEAT OPERATION

After six months the Estonian "racketeer" can go to the State Housing Board. If he can prove six months' residence, he can demand to hire the flat at the State rent and pay this lower amount to the State. It is then that the "racketeer" withdraws and leaves the Estonian in possession.

But nothing prevents the "racketeer" from repeating the operation with other flats, since it is often the official who deals with priority applications for housing and can thus allocate any number of flats to himself.

Petrol and tea are both scarce in Estonia and both are imported from the Soviet Union. Since this entails a careful check on quantities in stock, sold and consumed, it is difficult for Estonian officials in the appropriate Ministries to "divert" supplies. Nevertheless, the Soviet chauffeur waiting outside the "Laine" for his officer, can usually help.

SIMILAR TRADE

The Russians have been building a chain of bases down the Estonian coast and large stocks of petrol, tea and other goods, intended for their use, accumulate in the central military ordnance department in Tallinn. The Soviet chauffeur who has the right friends there can always obtain supplies for Estonians at a price.

A similar trade is done in fuel wood, widely used for heating in Estonian homes. The official allocation is three cubic metres per home. This does not

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

"DONA ALICIA"

Damaged cargo on this vessel will be surveyed by Messrs. Goddard & Douglas at 10.15 a.m. on March 2, 1956, and consignees are requested to have their representatives present during the survey.

RUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents.
Hongkong, March 1, 1956.

Chaplin Gives Conference On New Film



Objection To Doenitz's Picture

Bonn, Mar. 1. — German Socialist students have protested because the head of the constabulary service of the West German Ministry of the Interior has chosen a portrait of a war criminal, ex-Admiral Karl Doenitz, to decorate his office, it was learned here today.

The student, who belong to the Association of Socialist Students, were recently refused a subsidy by the Minister of the Interior, Herr Gerhard Schröder. He reproached them for a lack of political tact in an article in their review.

The student's protest was an open letter to the Minister, that Doenitz was one of Adolf Hitler's most faithful servants, and that he had been a member of the anti-Semitic "Stooge" of the Nazi regime who could not be rehabilitated.

Doenitz at present is in the Berlin-Spandau war criminal prison. — France-Press.

Surrounded by hordes of reporters, Charlie Chaplin is pictured during the course of a press conference in London last Friday to discuss his next scheduled film. Called "The King in New York," it will feature a leading lady British-born Dawn Addams. Chaplin himself will play the king. Surprise fact revealed at the conference was that production will only take about 10 weeks. — Chaplin has been noted in the past for lengthy production time schedules. — Express Photo.

MOURNERS FOR A LOST LOVE

Mendoza, Mar. 1. — Senior Orlando Zapata ordered a coffin, silver candelabra, and trimmings for a wake from a local undertaker.

When the undertaker called to supervise the proceedings he found that mourners were surrounding the coffin in which Zapata himself was lying placidly, in the best of health.

Zapata explained that after an unsuccessful love affair, he consulted a local quack, who told him that his miseries would be over if he organised an elaborate wake for himself.

Since no law has ever been enacted in Argentina banning wakes for healthy men, Zapata was allowed by the police to continue with the ritual. The quack was sent to prison. — China Mail Special.

WOMAN ON HER OWN

Copenhagen, Mar. 1. — The only woman consul-general in the Danish Foreign Service does not speak a word of Danish, although she is a Danish citizen.

She is French-born Mrs. Marie Louise Petersen, who has been consul-general at Algiers since 1952. She succeeded her husband, a Dane, there when he died.

Mrs. Petersen speaks French, English or German to Danish sailors who visit her for help. — China Mail Special.

Australian Rabbits Becoming Immune To Myxomatosis

Melbourne, Mar. 1.

Australia's rabbits are threatening to defeat scientists in the battle to exterminate the pest by means of the myxomatosis virus.

Scientists admit that the virus has lost its punch against the immunity built up by the rabbits and that myxomatosis cannot be relied on to maintain its present killing power.

An official warning of future danger has been issued from the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation which introduced the virus and reduced the rabbit population by many millions.

Coming after one of the best myxomatosis seasons yet experienced, with rabbits over most of eastern Australia at what is described as their "lowest ebb in human memory," officials calling on landowners to rally to the battle, feared that their warning would fall on deaf ears.

Overtake Mortality

Tests, they say, have shown that natural resistance, which is inherited, has been found to increase at a measurable rate with each succeeding epidemic of the disease. It is estimated that this increasing resistance will rob myxomatosis of its value as a pest control in between 5 and 10 years.

Dr. W.R. Sobey, of the animal section of the Research Organisation, said that the disease could be assumed to have lost its effectiveness when it killed only 50 per cent of infected rabbits. The breeding rate was so high that the remaining rabbits could more than overtake the mortality in one season.

The statement containing the warning was prepared by the officer in charge of the Research Organisation's wild life section, Mr. F.M. Ratcliffe. He said that loss of killing power would be over if he organised an elaborate wake for himself.

An important factor in the build-up of inherited resistance has been the widespread prevalence of weakened strains of the virus, he explained. This allowed ten per cent of the in-

Skims Cream

Trapping, they urge, may also be usefully exploited—but not the "commercial" trapping which "skims the cream" off the rabbit population, leaving a breeding stock. It must be trapping to exterminate. They urge landowners of sufficiently large properties to appoint trappers—not to pay them off because myxomatosis had cleaned most of the rabbits out.

There is no precise knowledge of the money value of myxomatosis to Australia. Estimates count in terms of many millions, represented in increased pasture, increased flocks of sheep, and increased wool returns. — China Mail Special.

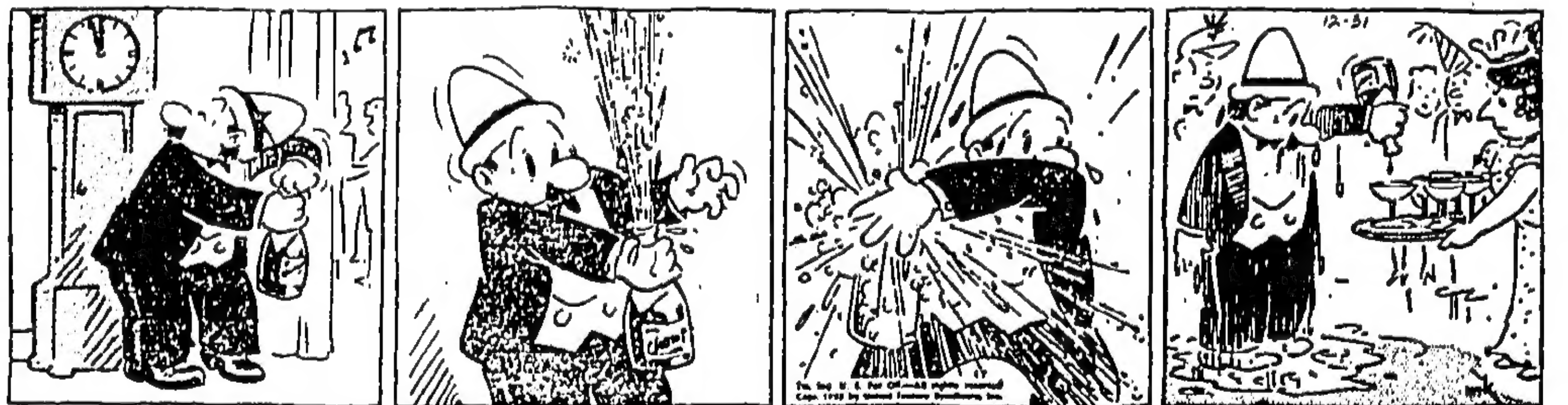
MANDRAKE THE MAÇICIAN

By Lee Falk and Phil Davis



FERD'NAND

By Milk



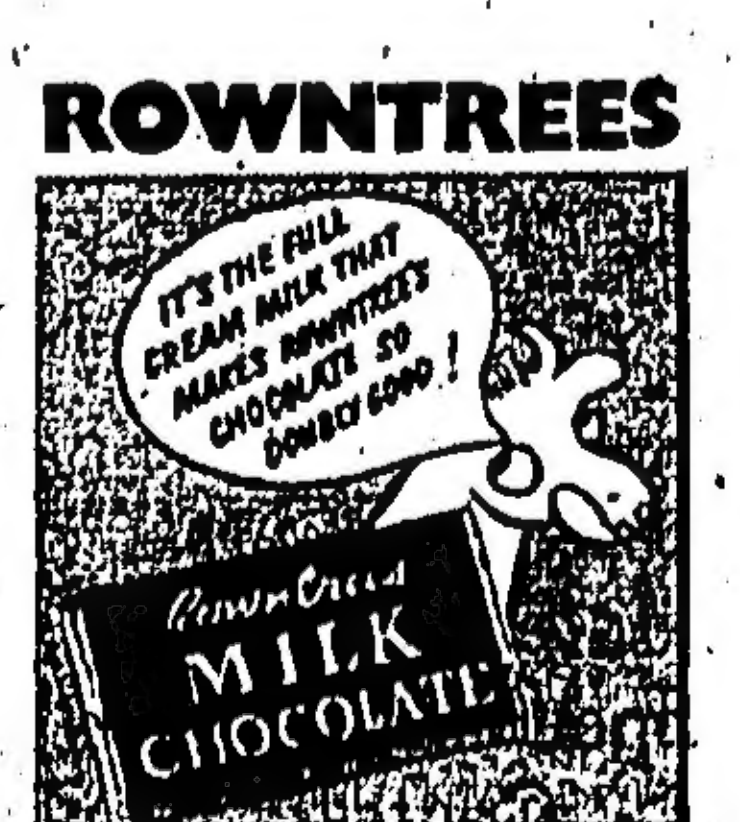
NANCY

By Ernie Bushmiller



JOHNNY HAZARD

By Frank Robbins



Mail Notices

The latest times of posting shown below are those for registered parcels. The latest times of posting elsewhere, which are earlier, are not shown. The latest times of posting for registered parcels are generally one hour earlier than those shown below. Particulars regarding parcel mails can be ascertained by enquiry at any post office.

FRIDAY, MARCH 2
By Air
Formosa, 6 p.m.
U.S.A., Canada, 6 p.m.
Thailand, India, Pakistan, Middle East, Africa, Great Britain & Europe, 6 p.m.
Japan, 6 p.m.
Macao, 6 p.m.
By Surface
SATURDAY, MARCH 3
By Air
Peking, Shanghai, Hankow, Kuming, 10 a.m.
Thailand, India, Pakistan, Middle East, Africa, Great Britain & Europe, 11 a.m.
Japan, 11 a.m.
Macao, 11 a.m.
By Surface
SUNDAY, MARCH 4
By Air
Formosa, 6 p.m.
U.S.A., Canada, 6 p.m.
Thailand, India, Pakistan, Middle East, Africa, Great Britain & Europe, 6 p.m.
Japan, 6 p.m.
Macao, 6 p.m.
By Surface
MONDAY, MARCH 5
By Air
Formosa, 6 p.m.
U.S.A., Canada, 6 p.m.
Thailand, India, Pakistan, Middle East, Africa, Great Britain & Europe, 6 p.m.
Japan, 6 p.m.
Macao, 6 p.m.
By Surface
TUESDAY, MARCH 6
By Air
Formosa, 6 p.m.
U.S.A., Canada, 6 p.m.
Thailand, India, Pakistan, Middle East, Africa, Great Britain & Europe, 6 p.m.
Japan, 6 p.m.
Macao, 6 p.m.
By Surface
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7
By Air
Formosa, 6 p.m.
U.S.A., Canada, 6 p.m.
Thailand, India, Pakistan, Middle East, Africa, Great Britain & Europe, 6 p.m.
Japan, 6 p.m.
Macao, 6 p.m.
By Surface

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CHINA MAIL

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FRIDAY, MARCH 2, 1956.

JOHN CLARKE'S CASEBOOK

The Man Who Tried To Buy Pound Notes

A TALL man in a ragged overcoat, and boots whose soles were parting company with their soles, was walking with slow, weary steps through the bustling streets of the West End.

The man's name was Martin, and the build and set of him suggested he had once been strong and active. But now his walk was that of an old man, and his drawn, pale face, framed in unruly grizzled hair, that of a sick one. Some people, passing Martin by, looked at him with pity.

At that particular time, Martin wanted nobody's pity. His future, that a little while before, had been uncertain, was now for the moment assured.

ONE OF THE MANY

AHEAD of him lay the calm and comfort of a hospital bed—sheets, blankets, warmth, food, company, things he had lately lacked. In his pocket he carried a card that would admit him to the hospital as an inpatient.

The card had been given to Martin by an ex-Serviceman organization. There was nothing wrong with him physically, but a few square meals would not put him right. But his nerves were in a bad state, too bad for him to work in his tough trade, which was that of deck-hand in the trawlers that sailed out of Milford Haven.

Martin's nerves had given him trouble since the war. Then, as an after-armorers stationed at Biggin Hill, he had been one of the many who kept the Few in the air during the Battle of Britain.

MARTIN TAKES A CHANCE

SLOWLY, Martin ambled on his way. At a corner, he walked into a small crowd of people clustered about a kiosk. A man who was crying, "Buy one of these packets, it may contain £1 or just a packet of razor-blades. Come along now, come along, a pound note and a packet of razor-blades, yours for 2s. 6d."

The kiosk was situated in his way. He was skilled in his deceptive art. He made it seem that for every other half-crown invested the prize would be a pound note plus a packet of razor-blades. In fact the £1 notes he used in the act could hardly be safer from other hands than had been in a strong-room. Martin did not see the trick that way.

"I'll try," he said. He handed over half-a-crown and was given an envelope that contained a packet of razor-blades.

ALL GONE

"A NOTHER," he called, and was given more blades. "Another, another..."

He spent all he had—10s., then he gave the kiosk a piece of his mind, and issued some pertinent threats. The crowd grew, the police came, Martin's fighting spirit was roused, he went for the policeman. With no very serious consequences to them, as they were fair-minded enough to tell Mr Paul Bennett, VC, at Great Marlborough Street next morning.

There, Martin had wearily pleaded guilty to having been drunk and disorderly, and having assaulted the police. The magistrate ordered a remand, so that the doctor's light would be on him, and the probation officer, Mr Charles Morgan, see him.

EXCEPTIONAL

WHEN Martin came back Mr Morgan said: "This man has really an exceptionally good record with the R.A.F. He went back to the trawlers, but he had to leave. Since his parents died he has lost track of his family and has wandered about the country. He arrived in London at about Christmas time and had nowhere to go, but now he can go to hospital, and he is willing to..."

The magistrate nodded. He bound Martin over conditionally, a condition being that he should resume his interrupted journey to the hospital, where they would quieten down his nerves.

"Thank you sir," Martin said, and quietly left. A frail man of 36, whose last 10s. lay in the pocket of the kiosk's huckster.

MARCH COMES IN WITH A ROAR

London, Mar. 1.
March roared into Europe today on a wave of destruction. Wind whipped up the North Atlantic to cause Norway's worst ship disaster of the winter and sent wartime ruins crashing to the streets in Berlin.

The 89-foot Norwegian trawler Brenning, capsized in heavy seas near the port of Aalesund, Norway, and 19 seamen were feared drowned. First reports said only one of 20 crewmen was saved.

The Brenning was proceeding north along the fjord-studded coastline when it was flipped over by high waves. Other Norwegian fishing vessels tried to rescue the crewmen, but huge waves prevented close approach to the overturned ship.

Winds of hurricane force, tumbling bombs-out Berlin buildings. One rain buried a large garage, but there were no casualties. After another sea disaster, coastal lifeboats took 44 crewmen ashore from the 7,000-ton Swedish ship Ecuador, which ran aground yesterday on a sand island between Holland and Germany. Eight passengers had been taken off earlier.

The captain and four crewmen remained aboard the damaged vessel to guide efforts to refloat the ship before it was broken up by heavy seas.

The Finnish icebreaker Volma was stuck in heavy pack ice along with a score of other ships outside Kiel Bay. The German icebreaker Prussia attempted to go to the aid of the Volma, but was forced to turn back because the ice was too thick.

Six small avalanches blocked roads between the Bavarian mountain villages of Berus and Etal, but there were no reports of serious damage or injuries.

United Press.

Atomic Power For HK Prospects

(Continued from Page 1)

at a price comparable with that from coal-fired stations. The second type are of basically different design and it is hoped will produce electricity at a cost that is expected to be competitive with the cost of power from conventional thermal stations.

But many years are likely to pass before atomic power means abundant cheap power.

Britain will spend £300 million on 12 atomic power stations which will provide between 14 and 2 million kilowatts of capacity.

Two will be started in 1957 and another two a year later. When all 12 are completed they will be producing electricity equivalent to the output of power stations using five to six million tons of coal or about ten days' output from the mines.

Calder Hall (of which Mr Johnson spoke and for which Babcock and Wilcox made the steam-raising plant) has two atomic reactors which will be fuelled by natural uranium. The reactors will be cooled by gas which will raise steam in conventional boilers and the steam will drive turbines of 50,000 kw capacity.

Commercial versions of this type will be of 100,000 to 200,000 kw capacity. (The generating capacity of the H.K. Electric Power Station is 65,500 kw).

ETNA ERUPTS

Catania, Sicily, Mar. 2.
One of Mount Etna's periodic eruptions suddenly became serious last night when a further outburst of molten lava broke on the volcano's south-east slope.

The lava from the new crater, 4,000 feet below the summit of the 10,700-foot mountain, was making towards the Leone Valley at a speed of a third of a mile an hour, experts reported in Catania.

They said "the situation, which might become dangerous, is being carefully watched."

Assistant Secretary

H.E. the Governor has appointed Mr A. G. E. Fudge to be an Assistant Secretary to the Urban Council. It was announced in the Government Gazette today.

H.E. the Governor has appointed Mr Tam Fai-kung to be a Sub-Inspector of Schools under the Education Ordinance of 1952. It was announced in the Government Gazette today.

RECORD COLD

Basle, Mar. 1.
February 1956 was the coldest February registered during the past 200 years by the Basle Meteorological Institute. It was announced here today.

The month, the Institute said, was minus 0.3 degrees (C) which is well below the average for 100 years of minus 1.8 and for 1920 with minus 0.1.—United Press.

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SIDE GLANCES By Galbraith



"I always turn off the TV when we have company—Henry loses control of himself talking back to the commercials!"

Share Scrips Case: Court's Decision On Telegram

Mr Justice J. R. Gregg in the Supreme Court this morning decided to admit part of an urgent cable sent from the Ministry of Light Industries in Peking to the Bank of Communications here last December.

The cable formed part of evidence of the Bank who are being sued as defendants in a claim for a quantity of share scrips of the Union Insurance Society of Canton Ltd held by the Bank and later placed in Court custody.

The Judge also said that he hoped that the manager of the Hongkong branch of the Bank, Mr Cheng Mo-hou, would appear to give evidence to clarify some points.

Mr Justice Gregg admitted portions of the cable to which the plaintiffs' Counsel had no objection. These portions were instructions and orders from the Ministry to the Bank regarding their claim to sovereign immunity and their claim that the scrips came legally into their possession and control.

Other portions concerning statements made by the Ministry were excluded from the evidence.

Plaintiffs are the Midland Investment Co. Ltd., of room 601 Pedder Building. They are represented by Mr John McNeill, QC, and Mr Leslie Wright, both instructed by Mr P. A. V. Vint.

Mr Perry Chen and Mr Brooke A. Bernacchi, instructed by Mr H. L. Kwan, for the Bank and Co., are representing the Bank of Communications and French Government.

Plaintiffs claim that the Bank of Communications, a French Government, is a company incorporated in China, and that the scrips, relating to 1,043 shares, which they claim are their property, or damages in lieu thereof.

Mr Bernacchi contended his case for the defendants on the point of sovereign immunity, referring to the evidence was at least before the Court in the present case. This case concerned gold bars deposited by the Bank of Communications in the Bank of Communications in Hong Kong.

The Court upheld the doctrine of sovereign immunity.

Mr Bernacchi submitted that there was no part of the doctrine applicable to the gold bars which was not the property of the Bank of Communications. The facts were that the foreign sovereign was undoubtedly in possession or control of the scrips before they were ever brought within the jurisdiction of the Hong Kong courts.

EARLIEST DATE
The earliest date on which possession actually took place on the gold bars was at least before 1952. The present government of China was the de jure government on January 1, 1950, said Mr Bernacchi.

He said that according to the plaintiffs' own letter of August, 1952 the scrips had been removed from their office in Shanghai by a semi-official organ of the People's Government. According to a letter from the plaintiffs, the scrips were said to be seized by the Chinese authorities in Shanghai.

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Final Stages In Murder Trial Reached

Mr Desmond Mayne, Crown Counsel, made his final address to the Special Jury at the concluding stages of the enamel factory murder trial before Mr Justice J. Reynolds at the Criminal Sessions this morning.

The case for the Prosecution concluded on Thursday and the Defence did not today call evidence.

Li Nung, 27, painter, is on trial for the murder of the foreman, Hung Oi-chung, at the Yick Fung Enamel Factory in Castle Peak Road, on October 11, 1955.

The Prosecution stated that the accused was severely beaten up for allegedly tearing down a Chinese Nationalist paper flag posted to a door of the Yick Fung Enamel Factory in Castle Peak Road on the Double Tenth last year. It was alleged that about two hours or so after the alleged assault which took place the following day, accused stabbed deceased who was his foreman in the degenerating department of the Factory to death with a triangular file.

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Today's Police Reports

Head and hand injuries were sustained by a Chinese woman in a traffic accident in Clear Water Bay Road, near the West End of Kowloon, yesterday.

The injured woman, Ka Yuk Kwan, aged 35 of No. 8, Saigon Street, first floor, ran across the roadway from behind a stationary bus and was knocked down by a private car. She was removed to hospital, where she is now detained for treatment.

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